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Executive Registry
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22 SEP 1972

The Honorable J. W. Fulbright, Chairman
Committee on Foreign Relations
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

My dear Mr. Chairman:

This is in response to your recent letter regarding the declassification of certain OSS documents relating to China and Indochina. We will be glad to work with Mr. Robert Blum, of the Committee staff, on this matter. If he will meet with us and identify which specific documents you would like declassified from among the extensive files he has reviewed, we will be glad to give your requests every consideration.

Sincerely,

Richard Helms

Richard Helms
Director

Distribution:

Orig. - Addressee
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1 - Mr. Little
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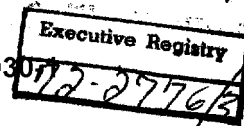
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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510



September 12, 1972

The Honorable Richard Helms
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Helms:

I appreciate the cooperation your staff has given our Committee researcher Robert Blum by granting him access to OSS files relating to China and Indochina. He informs me that they contain valuable documents that would be useful primary source material for historians examining American involvement in those areas.

I would therefore be grateful for the Central Intelligence Agency declassifying those documents for publication in a Foreign Relations Committee print. Mr. Blum will be glad to work with your staff on this matter.

Again, I express my appreciation for your cooperation. I personally look forward to reading this material, particularly the reports filed by Captain Frank White from Hanoi in late 1945 and early 1946. Mr. White, as you may know, was a witness before our Committee last May.

Sincerely,

J. W. Fulbright
J. W. Fulbright
Chairman

If there is any question about this I will appreciate a call. Mr. Blum had done a fine job on these papers.

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

72-23261

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OLC 72-0711

14 June 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: OSS Records

1. Mr. Robert M. Blum, Senate Foreign Relations Committee staff, visited Headquarters as a followup to Chairman J. W. Fulbright's letter request of 16 May concerning records of OSS missions in China and Indochina during the second World War and met with Mr. Harry Little, Deputy for Information Processing, ISD, and [REDACTED] OLC. After reviewing with Mr. Blum the inherent limitations in the files available due to the nature of OSS reports and the scattering of files to State, Archives, and Army, as well as SSU, on the disbandment of OSS, it was agreed that we would search out such reports as may be available in the SSU files relating to the specific areas of interest outlined by Mr. Blum and make them available for his review here at Headquarters. Mr. Blum appeared quite satisfied with this arrangement.

2. Mr. Blum identified his chief areas of interest as team reports emanating from the north as well as team reports from Hanoi in the south; reports of meetings or contacts with Ho Chi Minh and listing of supplies or equipment furnished to Ho; reports of the mission to Yunnan (which received some publicity early this year on TV); reports from Hanoi filed by [REDACTED] reports from Saigon. He is particularly interested in any photographs that might be contained with the reports.

3. Mr. Blum was advised that we would put a man on the job of searching out such reports from unsegregated files and that [REDACTED] would call him in a week or so to give Mr. Blum a progress report on the success of our efforts. Mr. Blum said this would be fine that he was not in any particular rush but that he would need to follow through in these areas due to the personal interest that has developed on the part of Chairman Fulbright.

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4. Mr. Blum is apparently quite knowledgeable about the activities of the various missions operating in China and Indochina during the last year of the war and the year immediately following World War II. He noted, in passing, that he hoped that we would be able to trace the reporting procedures followed by persons such as [redacted] in reporting from Hanoi to determine what disposition had been made of such reports and to determine whether the information contained therein had ever been forwarded to Washington. He also noted that the Committee had learned from testimony that it has received that OSS was an ad hoc organization insofar as reporting methods and procedures utilized in overseas areas and realized that the tracing of reports might be extremely difficult. He mentioned he had met also with [redacted] a former Agency employee whose book [redacted] will be published later in the year. 25X1

5. Mr. Little's office will identify and gather together the material suggested by Mr. Blum's outline. It will then be necessary to review the material prior to review by Mr. Blum.

STATINTL

[redacted]
Assistant Legislative Counsel

Distribution:

Original - Subject

✓ - Ex/Dir

1 - DDS

1 - OGC

3 - Mr. Little

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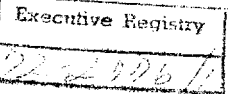
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OLC/[redacted] mmc (15 June 1972)

25X1

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23 May 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Legislative Counsel

SUBJECT : OSS Records

Per the Director's meeting, would you arrange, with Mr. Little, to get in touch with Mr. Blum in connection with the attached letter. The basic line we will follow is that it is quite impractical to consider authorizing Mr. Blum free access into this material but that we will look for the material in which he is interested and make such of it available as we can over time. Please keep the Director advised of the steps you take on this.

WEC

W. E. Colby
Executive Director-Comptroller

WEC:sfc

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

CARL MARCY, CHIEF OF STAFF
ANDREW M. KUEHL, CHIEF CLERK

May 16, 1972

Mr. Harry Little
S.S.U.
P.O. Box 4437
Brookland Station
Washington, D.C. 20017

Dear Mr. Little:

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations has assembled a special research staff to study American involvement in China and Indochina. Because the roots of American involvement date back to the Second World War, our research staff finds it necessary to examine our wartime O.S.S. missions in those areas. The Committee hopes for your cooperation in this effort.

Since your material on O.S.S. activity in China and Indochina are both voluminous and inaccessible to perusal, we would appreciate your granting access to S.S.U. files on these areas to Mr. Robert M. Blum of the Committee staff. I realize that some of this material is still considered sensitive. It will of course be handled with due respect and papers arising from it will be subject to clearance necessary for publication.

Along with general access to the S.S.U. files on China and Indochina, we would appreciate your office furnishing us with reports from the United States Army Observer Group in Yenan, reports from Hanoi filed by [redacted] filed by [redacted] and reports [redacted] sent from Hanoi.

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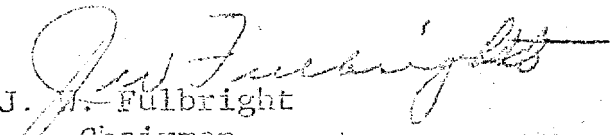
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If you have any questions about these requests, please contact Mr. Blum of our staff. He can be reached at 225-9174.

Sincerely yours,


J. W. Fulbright
Chairman

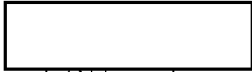

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TO	NAME AND ADDRESS		DATE	INITIALS	
1	The Director		19 SEP 1972	[initials]	
2	Mr. Maury				
3					
4					
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6					
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<input type="checkbox"/>	APPROVAL		DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION	
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMMENT		FILE	RETURN	
<input type="checkbox"/>	CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION	SIGNATURE	
Remarks: <u>1 to 2</u>					
<p>Let's get together with Cobby and Casper and talk about this. Please set up the meeting promptly. [initials]</p>					
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COMMENT	FILE	RETURN	
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Remarks:			
<p>I have sent copies to Messrs. Coffey, Karamessines, Maury, and Little and suggest that these are the appropriate people to participate in a meeting.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  LRHouston </div>			
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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM:

EXTENSION

NO.

Legislative Counsel

DATE

20 September 1972 STATINTL

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

cc: Warner

2.

Little

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

11.

12.

13.

14.

15.

We are holding this for Jack Maury's return tomorrow but you might have some inputs for the Director's meeting.

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Acting Legislative Counsel

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TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	The Director	19 SEP 1972	<i>mt</i>
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<input type="checkbox"/>	CONCURRENCE	<input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION	<input type="checkbox"/> SIGNATURE
Remarks: <i>1 to 2</i> <i>Let's get together with</i> <i>Gilby and Lamm and</i> <i>talk about this.</i> <i>Please set up the</i> <i>meeting promptly.</i> <i>mt</i>			
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